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**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Roland HEIDEL, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

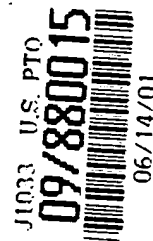
Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: June 14, 2001

For: A DISTRIBUTED CONTROL SYSTEM AND AN ASSOCIATED SYSTEM  
COMPONENT FOR THE DISTRIBUTED CONTROL SYSTEM



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

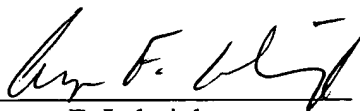
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
Attorney Docket No. Q64511

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith copies of corresponding International and German Search Reports from Foreign Patent Offices citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the German Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the German Patent Office. In addition, concise statements of relevance for certain ones of the documents being submitted are found in the Background discussion of the above-identified application. Finally, Applicants note that the International Search Report lists U.S. and Canadian counterparts of various of the foreign language documents submitted.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSION OF THAT  
PORTION OF SEARCH REPORT INDICATING  
THE DEGREE OF RELEVANCE

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim
D, Y	DE 196 24 929 A1 Fig. 1-3 with description	1, 5
Y	DE 195 09 836 A1 entire document	1, 3-5
D, A	US 55 19 878	
Y	Bötker ....	1, 2, 5
Y	JP 100 ....	1, 3, 5

**CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS**

X : particularly relevant if taken alone  
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category  
A : technological background  
O : non-written disclosure  
P : intermediate document

T : theory or principle underlying the invention  
E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date  
D : document cited in the application  
L : document cited for other reasons  
.....  
& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document